

September 12, 2006

**North Hills Controlled Ground Water Petition  
GENERAL HEARING PROCEDURES**

The Hearing for the North Hills Temporary Ground Water Area will generally proceed as follows:

- Opening Remarks by the Hearing Examiner.
- Presentation by the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) of its Report.
- Questions by the Public to MBMG regarding its Report.
- Presentation by DNRC Hydrogeologist Russell Levens regarding his Comments on the MBMG Report.
- Questions by the Public to DNRC Hydrogeologist Russell Levens regarding his Comments.
- Presentation of any comment, information or evidence by the Public in favor of extending (proponent) the temporary designation or granting a permanent designation of a controlled ground water area.
- Presentation of any comment, information or evidence by the Public against (opponent) extending or granting a controlled ground water area.
- Closing Remarks by the Hearing Examiner

Russell Levens, Department Hydrogeologist, is the appointed Staff Expert in the matter. Mr. Levens will attend the hearing to listen to oral testimony and will review all written evidence of a technical nature. The Hearing Examiner may question any proponent or opponent to clarify testimony or evidence, or to elicit additional information.

All comment, information and evidence shall be given under oath or affirmation. In order to be considered, written testimony must be accompanied by the following notarized statement: "I AFFIRM THE STATEMENTS APPEARING IN THIS WRITTEN TESTIMONY OR EVIDENCE ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, AND ANY DOCUMENT COPIES USED IN OR ATTACHED TO THE WRITTEN STATEMENT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT COPIES." A notary will be available at the hearing to notarize written statements.

After the hearing, the Hearing Examiner will prepare written findings and a final order. The Department final order will extend the temporary designation, allow the temporary designation to expire, or designate a permanent a controlled ground water area. MCA § 85-2-507.